Introduced by Senator Hollingsworth

February 8, 2010

An act to amend Section 328.2 of the Public Utilities Code, relating to energy.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 986, as introduced, Hollingsworth. Energy: natural gas restructuring.

Under existing law, the Public Utilities Commission has regulatory authority over public utilities, including gas corporations, as defined. Existing law relative to the restructuring of the natural gas industry requires the commission to require each gas corporation to provide bundled basic gas service, as defined, to all core customers in its service territory unless the customer chooses or contracts to have natural gas purchased and supplied by another entity. That law additionally requires that a gas corporation continue to be the exclusive provider of revenue cycle services, as defined, in its service territory, with certain exceptions.

This bill would make various technical, nonsubstantive changes to the above.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 328.2 of the Public Utilities Code is 2 amended to read:
- 3 328.2. The commission shall require each gas corporation to
- 4 provide bundled basic gas service to all core customers in within
- 5 its service territory unless the customer chooses or contracts to

SB 986 — 2 —

have natural gas purchased and supplied by another entity. A public 2 utility gas corporation shall continue to be the exclusive provider 3 of revenue cycle services to all customers-in within its service 4 territory, except that an entity purchasing and supplying natural gas under the commission's existing core aggregation program 5 may perform billing and collection services for its customers under 6 7 the same terms as currently authorized by the commission, and 8 except that a supplier of natural gas to noncore customers may perform billing and collection for natural gas supply for its 10 customers. The gas corporation shall continue to calculate its charges for services provided by that corporation. If the 11 commission establishes credits to be provided by the gas 12 13 corporation to core aggregation or noncore customers who obtain billing or collection services from entities other than the gas 14 15 corporation, the credit shall be equal to the billing and collection services costs actually avoided by the gas corporation. The 16 17 commission shall require the distribution rate to continue to include 18 after-meter services.